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## **News Release**

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### **THE BOYS & GIRLS CLUBS OF SARASOTA COUNTY AND THE WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL ANNOUNCES "WOMEN IN A CHANGING WORLD" AT THE ASOLO REPERTORY THEATRE ON MARCH 24, 2014**

Moderator: Nancy Markle, former CIO of Arthur Andersen

Tyla Abercrombie: Guest Artist Asolo Repertory Theatre; Actress, *Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike*

Pam Iorio: Speaker and Author, and former two-term Mayor of Tampa

Louisa Quarto: President, Realty Capital Securities and Chair of IPA's Women's Initiatives Committee

Amy Robinson: Independent Producer, *Julie and Julia; For the Love of the Game; After Hours*, et al.

Julie Teer National Vice President: Resource Development, Boys & Girls Clubs of America

Hayley Wielgus: co-anchor ABC 7 News at 5, 6 and 11 p.m.

SARASOTA, Fla. (April 1, 2013) –For the second year, the Women's Leadership Council (WLC) is deliberating change and the role of women in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century, sharing modern viewpoints from six dynamic women on March 24 at Asolo Repertory Theatre. The event, *WOMEN IN A CHANGING WORLD*, is a panel discussion educating women on global philosophies embracing technology, social media, education, finance and creative thinking.

Women in business is on the rise. In an article, a New York Times' writer wrote, "Four in 10 American households with children under age 18 now include a mother who is either the sole or primary earner for her family, according to a Pew Research Center analysis of Census and polling data released in May 2013. This share, the highest on record, has quadrupled since 1960." Not only in the workplace but the modern woman is a role model, teacher, philosopher—she is perceptive, instinctive and more confident than ever before.

Co-chairs of Women in a Changing World panel are Jonna Keller and Carol Poteat-Buchanan. Keller is a Boys & Girls Club Board Member and has contributed financially and voluntarily to the WLC for a number of years. "Three key elements to all fractions of WLC's and BGCSC's vision are academic success, leadership development and healthy lifestyles. If we don't embrace these powerful fundamentals now, we will fall behind in equipping our businesses, community and children with the knowledge to achieve successes." says Keller. Carol Poteat-Buchanan is the Immediate Past President of the US National Committee for UN Women,

which promotes an end to poverty, inequality and violence against women worldwide. She has received many awards for her community and philanthropic work.

The Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County received grant support from the Community Foundation of Sarasota County and the Gulf Coast Community Foundation to invite 200 students to attend the panel discussion at no charge. Local high schools, colleges and universities are participating.

The event will be held Monday, March 24 at Asolo Repertory Theatre from 5:00-7:30 P.M. plus an Afterglow Dinner with Speakers from 7:30-9:30. General admission tickets are \$35 and the Afterglow dinner, including the program is \$150. For tickets, go to [www.boysandgirlsclubs.com](http://www.boysandgirlsclubs.com) or call Chelsea at (941) 366-3911, ext. 135.

About the panelists:

Amy Robinson began her film career as an actress, best known for her role in Martin Scorsese's *Mean Streets*, before turning to producing. In 1977 she formed Triple Play Productions with Griffin Dunne and Mark Metcalf. Their first film, *Chilly Scenes of Winter*, based on the novel by Anne Beattie, was written and directed by Joan Micklin Silver and starred John Heard and Mary Beth Hurt. In 1982, Robinson and Griffin Dunne formed Double Play Productions. Together they produced five feature films: *Baby It's You*; *After Hours* directed by Martin Scorsese and starring Dunne which won Best Director at Cannes Film Festival and Best Film at IFP Spirit Awards; *Running On Empty* directed by Sidney Lumet and starring River Phoenix which was nominated for two Academy Awards (Best Supporting Actor and Best Screenplay) and which won the Golden Globe for Best Screenplay; *White Palace* produced with Mirage Entertainment, directed by Luis Mandoki and starring Susan Sarandon; and *Once Around*, Lasse Hallstrom's American directorial debut, starring Holly Hunter and Richard Dreyfuss. Robinson, alongside Paula Weinstein, went on to produce *With Honors* starring Joe Pesci and Brendan Frasier.

Next she produced two films which were developed from novels: *Drive Me Crazy* for 20th Century Fox, and *For Love of the Game*. Robinson reunited with Griffin Dunne to produce *Game 6* based on an original screenplay by Don DeLillo; *Julie & Julia*, starred Meryl Streep and Amy Adams, and was written and directed by Nora Ephron, based on the books 'Julie & Julia' by Julie Powell and 'My Life In France' by Julia Child and Alex Prud'Homme. Robinson produced alongside Eric Steel, Laurence Mark and Ephron.

Robinson is currently working on several projects including *The Deep Blue Goodbye* at Twentieth Century Fox, "The Lion Sleeps " for Universal Pictures and "Finders Keepers" which she is co-writing with Robert Plunket.

She also executive produced several movies over the last few years including *Marie And Bruce*; *12 & Holding*; and *The Great New Wonderful*.

Robinson was a member of the inaugural class of filmmakers at the 1981 Sundance Institute Lab. She has served as an advisor to the institute in various capacities including choosing projects, working with writers and directors, and speaking at the Producers Lab, which takes place each summer. She has served as a judge at the Sundance Film Festival, the Savannah Film Festival and the Tribeca Institute All Access Program . She has taught guest lectures at NYU Film School, University of Texas Business School, and Sarah Lawrence College.

Robinson is currently an adjunct Professor at the Columbia University Graduate Film School. She has been a visiting artist at the Ringling College of Art and Design in Sarasota Florida for the past two years.

Pam Iorio is the former two-term Mayor of Tampa, Florida who is now a leadership speaker, advisor and author. Now as a leadership speaker for corporations and trade associations, she delivers an inspiring and empowering message about straightforward leadership – the importance of leading yourself successfully so that you can effectively lead others. Her leadership book *Straightforward: Ways to Live and Lead* (2011) was called “the best business book of 2011” by *Florida Trend Magazine*.

As mayor of the nation’s 54th largest city, Iorio’s tenure was marked by a revitalized downtown, massive investment in infrastructure, economic redevelopment through Community Redevelopment Areas, commitment to the arts, emphasis on neighborhood improvements, unprecedented reduction in crime, and fiscal soundness, with financial reserves tripling even during a recession. She left office in 2011 with an 87% approval rating. First elected to public office at age 26, Iorio was the youngest person ever to win a seat on the Board of County Commissioners for Hillsborough County, Florida. At age 27, she was selected as chairman of the board. In 1992, Iorio was elected for the first of three terms as the county’s supervisor of elections. In 1999, she served as the president of the State Association of Supervisors of Elections,

In addition to her leadership speaking, Iorio is the Leader-in-Residence at the John H. Sykes College of Business at the University of Tampa. She serves on the advisory board for Celestar Corporation, a fast-growing knowledge and technology consulting company. She also serves on the board of the USF Foundation. In August of 2012, community leaders asked Iorio to become the interim CEO of the Children’s Board of Hillsborough County.

Iorio holds a BA degree in Political Science from The American University and a MA degree in History from the University of South Florida. She is married with two children.

Louisa Quarto joined Realty Capital Securities and American Realty Capital in April 2008 and currently serves as President, Realty Capital Securities, member FINRA, SIPC and Senior Vice President, American Realty Capital. Ms. Quarto has over 17 years’ experience in the direct investment industry and her current responsibilities with the company include overseeing national accounts, operations, due diligence and compliance activities for Realty Capital Securities. From February 1996 through April 2008 Ms. Quarto was with W. P. Carey & Co. LLC, most recently as Executive Director and Chief Management Officer of Carey Financial, LLC, the broker-dealer subsidiary of W. P. Carey, where she managed relationships with the broker dealers that were part of the CPA® REIT selling groups. Ms. Quarto earned a Bachelor of Arts from Bucknell University and an MBA in Finance and Marketing from The Stern School of Business at New York University. She holds FINRA Series 7, 63 and 24 licenses and is currently Chair of the Investment Program Association’s, or IPA, Women’s Initiatives Committee. Ms. Quarto served on the IPA Board of Directors from 2000 through 2012. She is also a board member for Arya’s Kids, a foundation that funds research to find a cure for pediatric cancer and initiatives that support more advanced cancer treatments with fewer and milder side effects.

Hayley Wielgus anchors ABC 7 News at 5, 6 and 11 p.m. She is also one of the station's health reporters. Before coming to Sarasota, Hayley was a reporter and weekend anchor at KYTX CBS 19 in Tyler, Texas. Prior to CBS 19, Hayley worked for Bloomberg Television in Washington, D.C.

She covered the economy and political happenings on Capitol Hill, as well as the 2008 Presidential Election. Hayley was born and raised in Texas and graduated with a bachelor's degree in Journalism from Texas A&M University. Gig 'em Aggies! She received her Master of Science in Journalism from Northwestern University's Medill School of Journalism. Go 'Cats! In Chicago, Hayley worked as a television and business print reporter for the Medill News Service. She reported and anchored for a weekly show on the PBS affiliate WYCC-TV.

Hayley is actively involved in the Suncoast community. She is a Certified Coach of the Sarasota Special Olympics swim team and a mentor with Big Brothers Big Sisters of the Sun Coast. Hayley is a member of the Junior League of Sarasota and received the 2011-2012 Community Impact Award. She is also a member of Designing Daughters and a Goodwill Manasota ambassador. Hayley is a fitness fanatic and enjoys spending time with her rescue rat terriers, Mattie and Jade. Hayley is an avid fan of the Aggies, Wildcats, Astros and Steelers!

Tyla Abercrombie Guest artist, second season (**Cassandra, Vanya and Sonia and Masha and Spike**; Second Narrator/Wounded Woman, *The Grapes of Wrath*) is excited to return for the 2013/2014 season at Asolo Rep and work once again with Michael Donald Edwards and Peter Amster. She appeared in last season's *You Can't Take It With You* and *Clybourne Park*. Regional theatre credits include *Northlight*, *Timeline*, *Goodman Theatre*, *Court Theatre*, *Portland Theatre Company*, *Pittsburgh Public*, *ATL*, *AWCCT*, *St. Louis Black Repertory*, *Victory Gardens Theater*, *Chicago Shakespeare Theatre*, *Studio Arena*, *Onyx Theatre Company*, *Coronet Theatre*. **Film and Television Credits include *Poker House*, *Crisis*, *Mob Doctor*, *Chicago Code*, *Detroit 187*, *The Beast*, *ER*, and AMC's new hit series, *Low Winter Sun*.**

Event sponsors to date include First Security Investments, Dennis and Graci McGillicuddy, Transamerica, Gulf Coast Community Foundation, Nancy Markle, Louise Minges, Realty Capital Securities, Community Foundation of Sarasota County, Band Weintraub Attorneys & Counselors, Alltrust Insurance, Hyatt Regency Sarasota, Media Partners: Biz(941), Clear Channel, West Coast Woman

#### ***About the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County:***

*The Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County have played an integral role in the Sarasota County community for more than 46 years, providing daily programs and services to thousands of young people. The Mission of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County is to enable all young people, especially those who need us most, to reach their full potential as productive, caring, responsible citizens. The vision is to provide a world-class Club experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who walks through our doors, with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living a healthy lifestyle.*

#### ***About the Women's Leadership Council:***

Women who serve as ambassadors for the Boys & Girls Clubs of Sarasota County to impart the Clubs' vision to provide a world-class Club experience that assures success is within reach of every young person who walks through the doors, with all members on track to graduate from high school with a plan for the future, demonstrating good character and citizenship, and living a healthy lifestyle.